

What is claimed is:

1. An admixture of human renal cells comprising a first cell population, B2, and a second cell population, wherein B2 comprises an isolated, enriched population of tubular cells and wherein the second cell population comprises erythropoietin (EPO)-producing cells, glomerular cells and vascular cells.

2. The admixture of claim 1, wherein B2 further comprises collecting duct epithelial cells.

3. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the B2 cell population has a density between about 1.045 g/mL and about 1.052 g/mL.

4. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the second cell population is a B4 cell population.

5. The admixture of claim 3, wherein the B4 cell population has a density between about 1.063 g/mL and about 1.091 g/mL.

6. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the second cell population is a B3 cell population.

7. The admixture of claim 4, wherein the B3 cell population has a density of between about 1.052 g/ml and about 1.063 g/ml.

8. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture does not include a B1 cell population comprising large granular cells of the collecting duct and tubular system having a density of $< \sim 1.045$ g/ml.

9. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture does not include a B5 cell population comprising debris and small cells of low granularity and viability with a density $> \sim 1.091$ g/ml.

10. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture of cells is capable of receptor-mediated albumin uptake.

11. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture of cells is capable of oxygen-tunable erythropoietin (EPO) expression.

12. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture contains HAS-2-expressing cells capable of producing and/or stimulating the production of high-molecular weight species of hyaluronic acid (HA) both in vitro and in vivo.

13. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture is capable of providing a regenerative stimulus upon in vivo delivery.

14. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the admixture is capable of reducing the decline of, stabilizing, or improving glomerular filtration, tubular resorption, urine production, and/or endocrine function upon in vivo delivery.

15. The admixture of claim 1, wherein the first and second cell populations are derived from kidney tissue or cultured kidney cells.

16. The admixture of claim 1, wherein B2 is characterized by expression of a tubular cell marker selected from the group consisting of megalin, cubilin, hyaluronic acid synthase 2 (HAS2), Vitamin D3 25-Hydroxylase (CYP2D25), N-cadherin (Ncad), E-cadherin (Ecad), Aquaporin-1 (Aqp1), Aquaporin-2 (Aqp2), RAB17, member RAS oncogene family (Rab17), GATA binding protein 3 (Gata3), FXYD domain-containing ion transport regulator 4 (Fxyd4), solute carrier family 9 (sodium/hydrogen exchanger), member 4 (Slc9a4), aldehyde dehydrogenase 3 family, member B1 (Aldh3b1), aldehyde dehydrogenase 1 family, member A3 (Aldh1a3), and Calpain-8 (Capn8).

17. An isolated, enriched population of human renal cells comprising a B2 cell population, wherein B2 comprises an isolated, enriched population of tubular cells.

18. The B2 cell population of claim 1, wherein the B2 cell population is capable of producing and/or stimulating production of a high-molecular weight species of hyaluronic acid (HA) both in vitro and in vivo, via expression of HAS-2 (hyaluronic synthase-2).

19. The B2 cell population of claim 17, further comprising collecting duct epithelial cells.

20. The B2 cell population of claim 17, having a density between about 1.045 g/mL and about 1.052 g/mL.

21. The B2 cell population of claim 17, which is capable of receptor-mediated albumin uptake.

22. The B2 cell population of claim 17, which is capable of providing a regenerative stimulus upon in vivo delivery.

23. The B2 cell population of claim 17, which is capable of reducing the decline of, stabilizing, or improving glomerular filtration, tubular resorption, urine production, and/or endocrine function upon in vivo delivery.

24. The B2 cell population of claim 17, which is derived from kidney tissue or cultured kidney cells.

25. The B2 cell population of claim 17, characterized by expression of a tubular cell marker selected from the group consisting of megalin, cubilin, hyaluronic acid synthase 2 (HAS2), Vitamin D3 25-Hydroxylase (CYP2D25), N-cadherin (Ncad), E-cadherin (Ecad), Aquaporin-1 (Aqp1), Aquaporin-2 (Aqp2), RAB17, member RAS oncogene family (Rab17), GATA binding protein 3 (Gata3), FXYD domain-containing ion transport regulator 4 (Fxyd4), solute carrier family 9 (sodium/hydrogen exchanger), member 4 (Slc9a4), aldehyde dehydrogenase 3 family, member B1 (Aldh3b1), aldehyde dehydrogenase 1 family, member A3 (Aldh1a3), and Calpain-8 (Capn8).

26. The B2 cell population of claim 17 that does not include a B1 cell population comprising large granular cells of the collecting duct and tubular system having a density of $< \sim 1.045$ g/ml.

27. The B2 cell population of claim 17 that does not include the B3 cell population comprising erythropoietin (EPO)-producing cells, glomerular cells and vascular cells having a density of between about 1.052 g/ml and about 1.063 g/ml.

28. The B2 cell population of claim 17 that does not include the B4 cell population comprising erythropoietin (EPO)-producing cells, glomerular cells and vascular cells having a density between about 1.063 g/mL and about 1.091 g/mL.

29. The B2 cell population of claim 17 that does not include a B5 cell population comprising debris and small cells of low granularity and viability with a density $> \sim 1.091$ g/ml.

30. A method of preparing a human B2 cell population, comprising

- a) exposing a cell suspension comprising a non-enriched, heterogeneous kidney cell population to hypoxic culture conditions; and
- b) extracting a first cell fraction comprising the B2 cell population.

31. The method of 30 wherein the B2 cell population comprises a greater proportion of tubular cells, and lesser proportions of EPO producing cells, glomerular cells and vascular cells when compared to the non-enriched cell population.

32. The method of claim 30, further comprising a step between step a) and step b), comprising contacting the cell suspension with a density gradient to separate one or more cell fractions, wherein the first cell fraction is present in the gradient after centrifugation at a specific density between about 1.045 g/mL and about 1.052 g/mL.